Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A vacuum apparatus comprising:

a plurality of components that are operated in a vacuum,

a plurality of inner chambers that respectively accommodate ~~these individual~~ the plurality of components,

bellows that connect ~~these~~ the respective inner chambers,

an outer chamber that accommodates the plurality of inner chambers as a whole, and

a plurality of exhaust mechanisms ~~exhaust means~~ installed in the ~~respective~~ inner chambers and the outer chamber, respectively,

wherein each of the exhaust mechanisms installed in the inner chambers includes a vibration-free type vacuum pump and a vibrating type vacuum pump connected in parallel.

2. (Currently Amended) The vacuum apparatus according to claim 1, ~~wherein this apparatus has~~ further comprising piping that runs to the outside of the apparatus from the inner chambers, ~~and the~~ wherein portions of ~~this~~ the piping that reach the outer chamber from the inner chambers ~~consist of~~ comprise a thin, flexible piping material.

Claims 3 and 4 (Canceled).

5. (Currently Amended) The vacuum apparatus according to claim [[3]] 1, wherein at each of the inner chambers, the respective ~~components~~ component accommodated in the inner chamber and the vibration-free type vacuum pump ~~inside~~ installed in the inner chambers are ~~in a positional relationship which is such that these parts do~~ positioned so as not to face each other, a heat-blocking plate is disposed between ~~these components~~ the component and the vibration-free type vacuum pump, ~~inside the inner chambers,~~ and ~~the~~ a surface of ~~this~~ the heat-blocking plate on ~~the~~ a side of the ~~components~~ component is a mirror-finish metal surface.

6. (Currently Amended) A method for operating the vacuum apparatus according to claim [[3]] 1, wherein only the vibration-free type vacuum ~~pump is~~ pumps are operated during the operation of the components.

Claim 7 (Canceled).

8. (Currently Amended) An exposure apparatus comprising:

a lens barrel which accommodates a projection optical system that projects a pattern on an original plate onto a sensitive substrate,

an original plate stage which moves and positions ~~this~~ the original plate,

a sensitive substrate stage which moves and positions the sensitive substrate,

a plurality of inner chambers which respectively accommodate the original plate stage and the sensitive substrate stage,

bellows which connect ~~these~~ the respective inner chambers and the lens barrel,

an outer chamber which accommodates the plurality of inner chambers and the lens barrel, and

~~exhaust means~~ a plurality of exhaust mechanisms installed in the ~~respective~~ inner chambers and the outer chamber, respectively,

wherein each of the exhaust mechanisms installed in the inner chambers includes a vibration-free type vacuum pump and a vibrating type vacuum pump connected in parallel.

Claims 9 and 10 (Canceled)

11. (Currently Amended) The exposure apparatus according to claim 8, ~~wherein~~ further comprising a contamination removal ~~means~~ mechanism ~~are~~ installed in the ~~respective inner chambers~~ lens barrel.

12. (Currently Amended) The exposure apparatus according to claim 8, ~~wherein the apparatus~~ further ~~comprises~~ comprising:

a body that supports the lens barrel, the original plate stage and the sensitive substrate stage on ~~the building~~ a floor, ~~and~~

a stage measurement reference device attachment member that is supported on ~~this~~ the body, and

an anti-vibration stand that is installed at least between the body and the ~~building~~ floor or between the body and the lens barrel.

13. (Currently Amended) A method for operating the exposure apparatus according to claim [[9]] 8, wherein only the vibration-free type vacuum ~~pump is~~ pumps are operated during ~~the~~ an exposure operation and alignment of the exposure apparatus.

Claim 14 (Canceled).